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CONTACT:

Kathy Farrow, US Arctic Research Commission

703-525-0112 (voice)

703-525-0114 (fax)

k.farrow@arctic.gov <<mailto:k.farrow@arctic.gov>>

www.arctic.gov <<http://www.arctic.gov/>>

Captain Lawson Brigham signs AGS Fliers & Explorers Globe

*Arlington, VA, Feb 12, 2008 *The United States Arctic Research Commission is proud to congratulate its Deputy Director, Captain Lawson W. Brigham, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.), as the 2008 signer of the American Geographical Society's Flier's and Explorers' Globe. The ceremony takes place tonight, Tuesday, December 12, 2008, and celebrates Brigham's participation in, and command of, many Arctic and Antarctic voyages on U.S. Coast Guard icebreakers.

The Fliers' and Explorers' Globe has been signed by more than 75 of the world's most celebrated explorers including Charles Lindbergh, Amelia Earhart, Sir Edmund Hillary, John Glenn and Neil Armstrong.

Brigham's tribute occurs during the International Polar Year 2007-2009. More than 30 of the Globe's signers, including Roald Amundsen, Louise Boyd, Laurence Gould, Matthew Henson, Fridtjof Nansen, Robert Peary, Richard Byrd, and Sir Hubert Wilkins, were honored for their accomplishments in the polar regions.

The ceremony commemorates the work of William S. Carlson, president at the University of Delaware from 1946 to 1950, who was an active polar researcher.

Brigham will also deliver an address, "A New Arctic Ocean: Responding to Marine Access at the Top of the World," on Thursday, February 14, at the university's Roselle Center for the Arts.

USARC was established by the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984. This federal agency's principal duties are to develop and recommend an integrated national Arctic research policy and to assist in establishing

a national Arctic research program plan to implement the policy. Commissioners also facilitate cooperation between the Federal government, state and local governments, and other nations with respect to Arctic research, both basic and applied.

The ceremony will be web cast, and can be viewed in real time at <http://www.udel.edu/UMS/udlive>.

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